EXCISE

DEF 12 - ISR

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

860

SECRET

85
Action EUR
Info. SS G SP SAH NEA P USIA NSC INR CIA NSA DAC MC RSR

NNNNVV FHE686VV HPA404
RR RUEHC RUEKDA
DE RUFHPA 265 0081730
ZNY SSSSS
R 081715Z
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3882
RUEKDA/DOD WASHDC
STATE GRNC
BT
S E C R E T JANUARY 8

DEPARTMENT RPT AS DESIRED

FOR STATE AND DEFENSE - ISR DEF 12-3

EMBTELS 3843 AND 3848

FRENCH MISSILES FOR ISRAEL - COMMENT

005922

1966 JAN 8 PM 12 54
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY: Dunaway DATE: 1/3/84
RDS ~~or XDS~~ EXT. DATE: OADR
TS AUTH: SBudge REASON(S): EO Mems
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐ 5/13/88
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐
RELEASE DENIED ☒ in part
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS: b1

1. EMBASSY NOT IN POSITION TO ASSESS ACCURACY OF FINNEY NYTIMES ARTICLE MEANINGFULLY. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, ALL ASPECTS THIS COMPLEX SUBJECT NATURALLY VERY CLOSELY HELD HERE AND ONLY RARELY TOUCHED UPON BY FRENCH IN TALKS WITH US. ROCKETS FOR NEAR EAST LAST GOT PUBLICITY DURING VISIT LEVANESE PRESIDENT

PAGE 2 RUFHPA 265 S E C R E T
HELOU HERE (EMBTELS 6292 AND YRTI OF MAY 6 AND 13, 1965). MOST COMPREHENSIVE INFO ON FRENCH MISSILE DEVELOPMENT FOR ISRAEL AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY [redacted] FRENCH MID EAST ARMS POLICY LAST DISCUSSED EMBTEL 5925 OF APRIL 21, 1965. FRENCH HAVE RAISED THEIR NUCLEAR CONCERNS IN CONNECTION ISRAEL-ARAB PROBLEM AS REPORTED EMBTELS 183 AND 341 OF JULY 9 AND 20, 1965. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS [redacted] THAT LATTER FLATLY DENIED FRANCE HELPING ISRAEL CONSTRUCT NUCLEAR WAR-HEAD. FRENCH REACTION TO FINNEY STORY (FIRST REFTEL) LATEST IN SERIES PUBLIC AND OFFICIAL FRENCH ASSERTIONS OF OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION.

2. REGARDLESS ACCURACY, NYTIMES PIECE CITING AMERICAN OFFICIAL SOURCES ON MOST SENSITIVE ASPECTS FRANCO-ISRAELI MILITARY COOPERATION UNDOUBTEDLY VERY EMBARRASSING TO GOF. PARTICULARLY

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IN ITS RELATIONS WITH ARAB WORLD. PROBLEM WILL CERTAINLY ATTRACT ELYSEE ATTENTION, PARTICULARLY SINCE DEGAULLE DEVOTING PERSONAL EFFORTS RESTORE FRENCH PRESTIGE IN NEAR EAST AND MAY BE PLANNING 66 TOUR OF AREA.

PAGE 3 RUFHPA 265 S E C R E T
3. WHEREAS FRENCH OBVIOUSLY NOT WELL PLACED DEMAND EXPLANATION FROM US IRRESPECTIVE OF STORY'S ACCURACIES OR INACCURACIES, THEY MAY, HOWEVER, SURFACE MATTER INDIRECTLY AND IN NON-SPECIFIC TERMS IN COURSE ROUTINE EXCHANGES RE ARMSWITH US, WHICH COULD OF COURSE SUFFER AS RESULT OF STORY. ANY APPROPRIATE BACKGROUND OR GUIDANCE WOULD THEREFORE BE MOST HELPFUL.

GP-2 MCBRIDE
BT